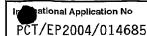
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT



A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G01J1/42 G01T G01T1/24 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) GO1J GO1T HO1L IPC 7 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages χ US 6 426 503 B1 (WUEEST MARTIN P) 1 - 1230 July 2002 (2002-07-30) figure 1 claims 1-14 column 4, line 17 - line 20 1 - 12US 5 382 799 A (MAY ET AL) Α 17 January 1995 (1995-01-17) column 3, line 52 - line 68 US 6 484 932 B1 (KINNEY JOHN P ET AL) 1-12Α 26 November 2002 (2002-11-26) column 2, line 18 - column 3, line 40 US 4 975 584 A (BENJAMIN ET AL) 1 - 12Α 4 December 1990 (1990-12-04) abstract Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. ° Special categories of cited documents: *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. other means *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 04/03/2005 24 February 2005 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Rasmusson, R

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